

LSI Docket No. 03-0376

Remarks

In the non-final Office Action mailed on 15 September 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 6, 8, 9, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as anticipated by McComb (United States Patent Number 5,778,194). The Examiner objected to claims 2-5, 7, 10, and 18-20 as dependent from rejected base claims but found them otherwise allowable if appropriately re-written. Claims 11-16 were found to be allowable.

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 17 to overcome the rejection thereof and has canceled claim 5 with its recitations incorporated into claim 1. Applicant has amended claim 13 to correct a typographic error therein and has amended claim 18 with a portion of its recitations incorporated in claim 17. Applicant suggests that all remaining claims 1-4 and 6-20 are allowable and respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection and objection.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection

The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 17 as anticipated by McComb. The Examiner also found claims 5 and 18 (dependent from claims 1 and 17, respectively) allowable if appropriately re-written. Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate the recitations of claim 5 and has canceled claim 5. Claim 17 is analogous to claim 1 but expressed in means-plus-function terminology in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §112, paragraph 6. Claim 18 includes a similar recitation to that of claim 5 (in addition to other features). The recitation common to claim 5 and 18 pertaining to the "generating" and "selecting" step or means has been incorporated into claim 17 and claim 18 has been amended to remove that feature now incorporated into its base claim 17.

Applicant urges that claims 1 and 17 as amended are allowable for at least the reasons suggested by the Examiner pertaining to claim 5. Remaining dependent claims 2-4, 6-10, and 18-20 are dependent from these base claims and are therefore maintained to be allowable for at least the same reasons and as dependent from allowable base claims.

Applicant therefore maintains that all remaining claims are allowable over all art of record, considered individually or in any combination. Applicant respectfully requests

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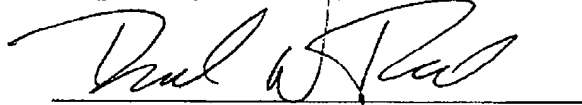
reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection and objection.

Conclusion

Applicant has amended claims 1 to incorporate the recitations of claim 5 and has amended claim 17 to incorporate a similar limitation of claim 18. Claim 5 has been canceled. Claim 13 has been amended to correct a typographic error. Applicant has thoroughly discussed the rejection and objection to the claims and respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of all outstanding rejections and objections.

No additional fees are believed due. Should any issues remain, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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